

## *At Year's End, We're Looking Ahead to Keep Your Family Safe*



It may be only be December but the EPA has designated January as National Radon Action Month. EPA and the U.S. Surgeon General recommend that all homes in the U.S. be tested for radon.

Did you know that you can find radon in the air as well as water? We test and mitigate for both. Testing is easy and inexpensive. We have addressed some of the basic facts about radon in this newsletter.

If you are considering buying a new home, look for builders who use radon-resistant new construction. The techniques to prevent radon from entering a home are practical and straightforward for any builder.

Please contact us with any questions you may have or to schedule a radon test of your home.

Your family's safety is our concern, too.

From our family to yours, we wish you a Holiday Season filled with joy and peace.

Nick Sunday  
Water-Flo, Inc. / Radon Solutions of CT

# ***Radon Basics: Are You at Risk?***



Radon is a serious concern and many areas of CT have high levels of radon in the air and in the water. Radon in the water is less likely if you have a municipal supply; however, high levels of radon in the air are found throughout the State. The highest potential of counties with high radon levels are Fairfield, New Haven, Middlesex and New London Counties. Moderate potential of radon level is found in Litchfield, Tolland and Windham Counties while the lowest potential for exposure is in Hartford County. Radon is responsible for over 21,000 lung cancer deaths per year in the United States; second only to smoking and more deaths than drunk driving.

## ***What is the "acceptable" level of radon in air?***

The EPA states that any radon exposure carries some risk(link is external); no level of radon exposure is always safe.

The recommended CT mitigation level for radon in air is 4.0 pCi/L and for water is 5,000 pCi/L. If you are concerned about radon have your home or business tested. Radon is serious business.

## ***What is radon?***

Radon is a radioactive gas. It is colorless, odorless, tasteless, and chemically inert. Unless you test for it, there is no way of telling how much is present. Radon is formed by the natural radioactive decay of uranium in rock, soil, and water. Naturally existing, low levels of uranium occur widely in Earth's crust. It can be found in all 50 states. Once produced, radon moves through the ground to the air above. Some remains below the surface and dissolves in water that collects and flows under the ground's surface.

## ***What can I do ensure my family's safety?***

**Radon Solutions of CT** is the radon division of Water-Flo, Inc. You will find us listed on the CT DPH website as an authorized testing and mitigation company within CT. We are also recognized nationally by American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists.

Radon Solutions of CT can test for either radon in the air or radon in the water and work for concerned homeowners, businesses and real estate transactions. We are also a radon mitigation company which means we can service and install radon remediation systems for both air and water and are required to maintain our standing thru continuing education credits.

# What Should I Do If I've Been Exposed to Radon

There are no widely available medical tests to measure whether you have been exposed to radon.



If you smoke and have been exposed to higher levels of radon, it's very important to try to quit smoking. The combined effects of cigarette smoking and radon exposure raise the risk of lung cancer much more than either exposure alone.

If you think you might have been exposed to high levels of radon over long periods of time, talk with your doctor about whether you should get regular health checkups and tests to look for possible signs of lung cancer. Be aware of possible symptoms of lung cancer, such as shortness of breath, a new or worsening cough, pain or tightness in the chest, hoarseness, or trouble swallowing, and tell your doctor if you start to have any of these symptoms.

## Ask The Expert

Questions about your water or air quality? Here is your forum...

**Q: When is the best time to test for radon in the air?**



**A: For best results, EPA recommends that the radon test be conducted in the lowest livable level of the home, such as the basement, during the colder months of the year. With the weather turning chilly, it's time for the list of fall chores. And right up there along with installing the storm windows and getting the heating system checked, should be testing the radon levels inside your home. Tests can also be taken during other times of the year if windows and doors have been closed for 12 hours prior to testing.**

More tips and answers to your questions can be found at our website:  
[www.waterflo.com](http://www.waterflo.com)

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